

the existing ones on Tenali station (Guntur district) in view of a large number of trains passing through it; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

LPG agencies in Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri, Maharashtra

3466. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allot LPG agencies to all the tehsil headquarters in Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri districts of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to give preference to women cooperative societies in allotting such agencies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Overbridge at Hathras

3467. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a fly over bridge at Hathras junction railway crossing in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which the construction work is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The Railway have received a proposal for construction of road-overbridge in replacement of level crossing No. 95A near Hathras Junction. After the State Government acquires the necessary land and accords high priority for the work, the Railway will consider its inclusion in their future Works Programme.

[English]

Functioning of Railways

3468. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Touts Flourish, trains flounder" appearing in the "Times of India" dated June, 11, 1991;

(b) if so, whether complaints regarding corruption in reservation of tickets, late running, lack of drinking water and decline in the level of catering in trains have been received, if so, the number of such complaints; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to provide better rail service facilities to the passengers and to improved its functioning and earnings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On an average about 40 complaints pertaining to various subjects are received per month in the Ministry.

(c) The effort to improve services and financial position is a continuous on going all embracing process.

[Translation]

Ticketless travelling

3469. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passengers arrested for travelling without ticket during 1990, and upto June, 1991 zone-wise;

(b) the details of the amount collected from them as fine; and

(c) the number of persons given punishment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The number of persons prosecuted, jailed and the amount of judicial fine realised during the period from January 1990 to June 1991 were as under:—

Railway	No. of persons prosecuted/arrested	No. of persons jailed	Amount of judicial fine realised (Rs. in lakhs)
Central	33,353	17,879	16.82
Eastern	48,738	20,543	9.60
Northern	36,554	18,985	35.08
North Eastern	19,845	11,279	17.48
Northeast Frontier	1,305	410	1.46
Southern	3,290	620	0.82
South Central	29,240	8,252	7.51
South Eastern	7,495	4,448	0.93
Western	55,248	20,307	14.30
Total	2,35,068	1,02,723	104.00

[English]

LPG agencies in Maharashtra

3470. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise number and location of LPG agencies at present in Maharashtra and the number of LPG connections released so far;

(b) the number of persons on waiting list, district-wise and by when gas connections are likely to be released to them; and

(c) the names of the places, district-wise in Maharashtra where new gas agencies are likely to be opened in near future ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) The details as on 1.4.91 are:—

- i) LPG Distributorships..... 540
- ii) Customer Strength 30.46 lakhs
- iii) Waiting list 11.61 lakhs

Efforts are to give LPG connections to as many applicants as possible in Maharashtra.

(c) New LPG distributorships are opened in different cities as per Marketing Plans and policy from time to time.

Declaration of Bangalore Airport as International Airport

3471. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to declare Bangalore airport as an International Airport during the current financial year; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to declare Bangalore airport as an international airport during the current financial year, as the existing international airports are adequate to cater to the international traffic.

Gas on cheaper rates to Assam and Bihar

3472. KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to supply natural gas at cheaper rates to Assam and Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and..

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) Gas is already being supplied in Assam at concessional rates. There is no proposal to supply gas to Bihar.